

we have dropped our names and adopted his. As to the *scientific unfairnesses* in our other works which Prof. M'Coy promises to point out, I should be very glad by his making known what he considers as *unfairnesses*; for if I have wronged either that author or any other, it must have been unconsciously, and I am always desirous of repairing the errors that I may have committed. I trust, however, that Prof. M'Coy's efforts in that direction will not prove more successful than the arguments by which he and Prof. Sedgwick have endeavoured to invalidate the statement made by M. Haime and myself in our work on the British Corals, and that I shall not be obliged to waste more time on the subject.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient servant,
MILNE-EDWARDS.
Paris, April 28th, 1854.

XLV.—A Synopsis of the *Fissirostral* family *Bucconidæ*.

By PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A., F.Z.S.

[Concluded from p. 365.]

Genus II. MALACOPTILA.

A. *Malacoptila*, G. R. Gray.

1. MALACOPTILA FUSCA (Gm.).

White-breasted Barbet, Lath. Syn. ii. 505.

Bucco fuscus, Gm. S. N. i. p. 408; Lath. Ind. Orn. i. p. 206.

Lypornix torquata, juv., Wagl. S. A. sp. 4.

Monasa uitorques, Du Bus, Bull. Ac. Brux. xiv. pt. 2. p. 107; Rev. Zool. 1848, p. 249.

Monasa fusca, Strickl. Cont. to Orn. 1852, p. 43.

Le Tamatia brun, Le Vail. Ois. de Par. v. 2. pl. 43.

Bucco fuscus, Vieill. N. D. d'H. N. iii. 239; Vieill. Enc. Meth. 1419.

Tamatia fusca, Less. Tr. d'Orn. p. 168.

Monasa fusca, Gray's Gen. i. p. 74 (pars); Bp. Consp. Av. p. 147 (pars).

Malacoptila fusca, Gray, List of Gen. (1841) p. 13.

M. brunnea clare fulvo striata: macula utrinque frontali et magna triangulari superpectoralis albis: ventre obscure fulvescente: pedibus albidis: rostro nigro basi aurantio.

Long. tota 6·5; alæ 3·6; caudæ 2·7.

Hab. in Cayenna (Le Vail.); Rio Nigro (A. W.).

This species has been much confounded with *M. torquata*. M. de Lafresnaye in the 'Revue Zoologique,' and Mr. Strickland in the 'Contributions to Ornithology,' have clearly pointed out the differences between them, which will be sufficiently obvious

on a comparison of the two descriptions, and may be seen at a glance on looking at the birds themselves. Latham's original specimens of his "*White-breasted Barbet*," under which name he gave the first published description of this species, are still extant in the Derby Museum at Liverpool. This bird extends from Cayenne to the upper branches of the Rio Negro, where examples were collected by Mr. Wallace.

2. MALACOPTILA RUFÆ (Spix).

Bucco rufus, Spix, Av. Bras. i. t. 40. fig. 1. p. 52.

Lypornix rufa, Wagl. S. A. sp.; Tsch. F. P. p. 257; Tsch. Av. Consp.

Monasa rufa, Gray's Gen. i. p. 74; Gray, List of B. M. p. 50; Bp. Consp. p. 147.

M. brunnea; capite cinereo albo striato: loris et colli lateribus rufescentibus: plaga super-pectoralis alba, infra tenuiter nigro marginata; ventre medio albescente: rostro nigro, mandibula inferiore basi flava.

Long. tota 7·0; alæ 3·5; caudæ 2·7.

Hab. in sylvis fl. Amazonum (Spix); Para (Wallace); Peruvia Bor. Or. (Tsch.).

My thanks are due to Mr. Alfred Wallace for allowing me to examine this and many other birds collected by him on the Amazons and Rio Negro. As Dr. von Tschudi mentions the present species as an inhabitant of north-east Peru, and Mr. Wallace's specimens were from Para, we must conclude that it inhabits the whole region of the upper and lower Amazon.

3. MALACOPTILA TORQUATA (Hahn).

Bucco torquatus, Hahn, Ansl. Vög. pl. 13. p. 5.

Bucco fuscus, Licht. Verz. d. Doubl. p. 8.

Bucco striatus, Spix, Av. Bras. i. t. 40. fig. 2. p. 53.

Capito fuscus, Max. Beit. iv. 364.

Lypornix torquata, adult, Wagl, S. Av. sp. 4.

Lypornix striata, Sw. Orn. Draw. pl. 34.

Monasa fusca, Bp.; Gray's Gen. p. 74 (pars); Bp. Consp. p. 147 (pars).

M. nigrescenti-brunnea rufescente fulvo striata: dorso imo remigibus et rectricibus immaculatis et pallidioribus: plaga pectorali alba infra vitta nigra marginata: loris et ventre summo rufescentibus: ventre laterali virescentiore brunneo, medio cum crisso albescentiore: pedibus nigrescentibus: rostro nigro.

Long. tota 8·0; alæ 3·7; caudæ 3·7.

Hab. in Brasilia Mer. Or. (Max.); Bahia (Licht.).

The present bird is one of the best known of its genus, and perhaps the commonest in collections. Prince Maximilian of Neuwied gives the following account of it:—

"This Puff-bird is one of the commonest wood-birds in South

Brazil. Near Rio de Janeiro, about S. Cristovao, I found it in all the thick woods, even in the neighbourhood of dwellings. They sit still and melancholy upon a low bough, or upon the ground, or hop about on the watch for insects, the remains of which are found in their stomachs. In the south provinces near Rio, Cabo Frio, on the Parahyba, and still farther north, they are common; in the more northerly provinces that I travelled through, I did not meet with them so often. They are by no means timid, and are easy to be shot."

4. MALACOPTILA FULVOGULARIS, Selater.

Malacoptila fulvogularis, Selater, Pr. Z. S. 1853, Dec. 13th.

M. capite toto et dorso summo nigris, scapis plumarum leviter fulvis: dorso alis caudaque fuliginoso-brunneis; dorso medio punctis paucis triangularibus fulvis; uropygii plumis anguste fulvo marginatis; cauda immaculata: mento et gutture toto clare fulvis: pectore nigro, scapis plumarum late albis: ventre leviter fulvescente.

Long. tota 8·5; alæ 3·7.

Hab. in Bolivia (Mus. Derb.).

The only specimen of this species I have yet seen is in the Derby Museum at Liverpool. The bill is black, the head brownish black passing into brown on the back and rump; the top and sides of the head and upper neck have the shafts of the feathers and the adjoining barb of a clear wood-brown; on the middle of the back are a few triangular spots of clear brown; the rump-feathers are narrowly edged with lighter brown. The wing- and tail-feathers are clear brown, the wing-feathers lighter on the outside edge. The chin and whole throat are clear fulvous; the breast-feathers are medially whitish and bordered with blackish brown. The belly and crissum are fulvous whitish.

In the colouring of the head and upper neck this species resembles the preceding.

5. MALACOPTILA SUBSTRIATA, Selater.

Malacoptila substriata, Selater, Pr. Zool. Soc. Dec. 13th, 1853.

M. supra umbrino-brunnea capite nigrescentiore: capite et dorso summo longitrorsum fulvo striolatis: dorsi uropygiique plumis rufescente ochraceo anguste marginatis: alis caudaque immaculate cinerascanti-brunneis: loris et mystacibus elongatis albis: lateribus capitis et corpore infra nigrescentibus, ochraceo et albo late striatis: gula media et pectore toto rufescente ochraceo: ventre brunneo et ochraceo-albido confuse mixto: cauda subtus cinerascentiore: rostro pedibusque nigris.

Long. tota 7·8; alæ 3·8; caudæ 3·8.

Hab. in Nova Grenada.

In the curiously produced feathers descending from each extremity of the lower mandible, this species agrees with the three following, and they are also all four closely allied in plumage.

6. MALACOPTILA ASPERSA, Sclater.

Malacoptila aspersa, Sclater, Pr. Zool. Soc. Dec. 13th, 1853.

M. supra fuliginoso-brunnea, dorso rufescentiore: alis caudaque immaculate brunneis: nucha dorso toto et alarum tectricibus maculis triangularibus clare fulvis aspersis: loris albescentibus: regionis auricularis plumarum scapis pallide fulvis: mystacibus et plumis mentalibus rigidis: gula alba: pectore in ferrugineum transeunte: ventre toto crissoque obscure albis ferrugineo tinctis: pectore et ventris lateribus obsolete fuliginoso striatis: rostro nigro, mandibula inferiore ad basin flava: pedibus obscure brunneis.

Long. tota 7·25; alæ 3·2; caudæ 3·2.

Hab. Caraccas in Venezuela.

I found this new species among the birds of this family in the British Museum, which I have had full opportunity of examining through the kindness of Mr. G. R. Gray. In the upper plumage it closely resembles *M. mystacalis*, but the spots are rather smaller and more generally distributed than in that species. The front is fuliginous, the lores whitish. The under surface comes nearer to *M. substriatâ*, but the throat and mental bristles are here quite white and not ferruginous, and the spots are not so dark. The bill resembles in colour that of *M. mystacalis*, but is more slender in form.

7. MALACOPTILA MYSTACALIS (Laf.).

Monasa mystacalis, Laf. Rev. de Zool. 1850, p. 215. pl. 3.

M. fuliginoso-brunnea; dorsi medii et tectricum alarium plumis macula triangulari pallide fulva ad apicem notatis: fronte loris et plumis mystacalibus albis: gula media et pectore toto ferrugineo-rubro; ventre medio albicante; lateribus obsolete fulvo striatis: rostro nigro, mandibula inferiore basi flavo; pedibus pallidis.

Long. tota 7·4; alæ 4·0; caudæ 3·5.

Hab. in Nova Grenada.

This and the two preceding and next following species are remarkable for the great development of the rictal bristles and the *quasi* moustachios descending from each side of the chin, whence M. de Lafresnaye formed his name for this bird. The present species may be distinguished from the two preceding by the deep red-brown throat and breast. Two examples in my possession came, as M. de Lafresnaye's, from Santa Fé di Bogota.

8. *MALACOPTILA PANAMENSIS*, Lafr.*Malacoptila panamensis*, Lafr. Rev. Zool. 1847, p. 79.*Capito panamensis*, Bp. Consp. Av. p. 146.

M. supra tota rufo-fusco-brunnea uropygio caudaque intensioribus et unicoloribus: dorsi plumis alæque tectricibus totis macula parva pallide fulva fere triangulari terminatis: oculorum ambitu auriumque tectricibus vivide rufis, earum scapis gracilibus pallidioribus: vitta frontali aliaque mystaciforma utrinque a mandibula infera descendente niveis, hujus vittæ sicut menti et colli laterum plumis strictis, elongatis, acuminatis et rigidiusculis: subtus rufescenti-albescens; mento hujusdem coloris; collo antico et pectore supremo ferrugineis: pectoris imi ventrisque plumis sordide albis, nigro-fusco marginatis quasi large reticulatis; hypochondriis rufescentibus: rostro elongato, nigro, basi vibrissis pilisque elongatis rigidissimis oblecto: pedibus pallidis, digito medio ut rite in hoc genere longissimo.

Long. tota 18 cent.; alæ 9 cent.; caudæ 7 cent.

Hab. in prov. Panama.

I have given *M.* de Lafresnaye's description of this species, with which I am not well acquainted, having seen but one specimen that I imagine belongs to it. This is in the Derby Museum at Liverpool, and was obtained by De Lattre at Coban in June 1843. The example from which *M.* de Lafresnaye took his specific characters was brought by the same active collector from Panama, and is now in the Philadelphian Museum.

9. *MALACOPTILA INORNATA* (Du Bus).*Monasa inornata*, Du Bus, Bull. Ac. Brux. xiv. pt. 2. p. 107; Rev. Zool. 1848, p. 249; Bp. Consp. Av. p. 147.

M. supra sordide fusca: dorsi et tectricum alarum minorum et mediarum plumis singulis apice rufescente maculatis: uropygio et cauda fuscescenti-rufis: capitis lateribus fuscis, plumis singulis in medio longitrorsum rufescente striolatis: collo antico pectore epigastrio et hypochondriis rufescente et fusco variis; ventre albido; remigibus obscure fuscis: rostro obscure fusco, apiculo et subtus flavicante: pedibus fuscescentibus, unguibus fuscis.

Long. 17 cent.

Hab. in Guatemala.

M. Du Bus says that this species is nearly allied to his *M. unitorques*, i. e. *M. fusca*, but without any collar or longitudinal *striae* above. It does not seem to agree with any bird of the genus with which I am acquainted.

B. *Nonnula*.10. *MALACOPTILA RUBECULA* (Spix).

Bucco rubecula, Spix, Av. Bras. i. p. 51. t. 39. fig. 1.

Monasa phaioleucos, Temm. Pl. Col. 323. fig. 2.

'*Cuculus rufalbinus*, Temm.,' Cuv. Règn. An. i. 455.

Lypornix rubecula, Sw. Orn. Dr. pl. 35.

Monasa rubecula, Gray's Gen. p. 74; Gray, List of B. M. p. 50; Bp. Consp. p. 147.

M. cinerascenti-brunnea: gula et pectore brunneo-rufescentibus: loris et ventre medio albis: rostro nigro.

Long. tota 6·0; alæ 2·5.

Hab. prope pagum *Malhada* flumini S. Francisci proximum (Spix); in sylvis fl. Amazonum (Wallace).

The preceding characters are drawn up from a specimen belonging to Mr. Wallace. Others are in the British and Munich Museums; but I do not consider this a common bird in collections, and though I possess examples of twenty-one out of the thirty-three species described in this Synopsis, the present is one of those that I have never been fortunate enough to meet with except as before mentioned.

It is difficult to ascertain the true date of the publication of the different *feuilletons* of Temminck's 'Planches Coloriées,' but I believe Spix's name for this species was the first published, as is generally allowed to have been the case.

The name *Nonnula*—proposed for the subdivision of the present genus which contains this and the next two succeeding species, in a communication upon new *Bucconidæ* made to the Zoological Society last December—I coined as a diminutive of *Nonna*, i. e. *Monaca*, the word, I suppose, intended by Vieillot when he established the genus *Monasa*.

11. *MALACOPTILA FRONTALIS*, Sclater.

M. cinerascenti-brunnea: pectore brunneo-rufescente, quasi fere ferrugineo; ventre albescente: capite summo antice castaneo: rostro nigro, mandibula inferiore basi flavescente.

Long. tota 5·5; alæ 2·5; caudæ 2·3.

Hab. in Nova Grenada.

The British Museum contains two specimens of this apparently new *Malacoptila*, selected amongst other interesting novelties from a collection lately received by Mr. S. Stevens from Santa Fé di Bogota. I have to thank Mr. G. R. Gray for allowing me to examine them.

The species is most closely allied to the preceding, and intermediate between that and the succeeding *M. ruficapilla*. It may

be distinguished from the former by its chestnut head, brighter red breast, broader and longer bill, and absence of all indications of white upon the front or lores. The two external rectrices are light brown, the others blackish edged with light brown.

In younger birds the chestnut head is wanting, which renders them easy to be confounded with *M. rubecula*.

Mr. Eyton's collection also contains an example of this bird.

12. MALACOPTILA RUFICAPILLA (Tsch.).

Lypornix ruficapilla, Tsch. Av. Consp. p. 300; Tsch. F. P. p. 258. pl. 24. fig. 1.

Monasa ruficapilla, Gray's Gen. p. 74; Bp. Consp. p. 147.

M. brunnea : pileo castaneo : collo postico cinereo : subtus cinerea medialiter rufa.

Long. tota 6·0; alæ 2·4.

Hab. in Peruv. Bor. Or. (Tsch.).

This pretty little species was discovered by Von Tschudi in North-east Peru. I have seen specimens in the French National Collection and in the Derby Museum at Liverpool. It seems closely allied to *M. rubecula* in form, and is of about the same size.

Genus III. MONASA.

1. MONASA ATRA (Bodd.).

Coucou noir de Cayenne, Buff. Pl. Enl. 512.

Cuculus ater, Bodd. Tabl. d. Pl. Enl. p. 30.

— *tranquillus*, Gm. S. N. i. 417.

Bucco cinereus, Gm. S. N. i. 409.

Corvus australis, Gm. S. N. i. 377.

Bucco calcaratus, Lath. Ind. Orn. i. 206.

Corvus affinis, Shaw's Zool. vii. 381.

Bucco cinereus, Licht. Verz. d. Doubl. p. 8.

Lypornix tranquilla, Wagl. Syst. sp. 1.

Monasa tranquilla, Bp. Consp. p. 147; Schomb. Reisen, iii. 719; Vieill. N. D. d'H. N. xxi. 321; Vieill. Enc. Méth. 1338.

Monasa atra, Gray's Gen. i. p. 74; Gray, List of B. M. p. 49.

Le Barbacou à bec rouge, Le Vail. Ois. de Par. ii. t. 44, 45.

M. nigra : alarum tectricibus albo limbatis : rostro rubro : pedibus nigris.

Long. tota 11·0; alæ 5·3; caudæ 5·2.

Hab. in Guiana (Schomb.); Cayenna (Buff.); Trinit. ins. ?

This bird, which has been honoured with no less than six different specific names by the older authors, is common in collections from Cayenne, and I have seen examples said to be from Trinidad. Schomburgk says that it is always found in pairs, and prefers the more open woods and the trees on the banks of the rivers. He never found it in the bush.

2. *MONASA FLAVIROSTRIS*, Strickl.

Monasa flavirostris, Strickl. Cont. Orn. 1850, p. 47. pl. 48.
— *axillaris*, Lafr. Rev. Zool. 1850, p. 216.

M. nigra: tectricibus alarum minoribus superioribus et inferioribus niveis: rostro flavo: pedibus plumbeis.

Long. tota 8·2; alæ 4·3; caudæ 3·75.

Hab. in Peruv. Or. Rio Negro (Lafr.); Nova Grenada (?).

Mr. Strickland and the Baron de Lafresnaye published their respective discoveries of this bird about the same time, but I think Mr. Strickland's name has slightly the priority. Mr. Strickland's specimen was, I believe, from the upper branches of the Amazon, M. de Lafresnaye's from the Rio Negro; the bird therefore in all probability ranges along the head-waters of both streams. The locality of 'New Grenada' I give on the authority of specimens in my own collection, which have the usually unmistakable appearance of '*Bogota*' skins.

This species may be easily distinguished from the preceding by its smaller size, yellow bill and snowy-white under and upper lesser wing-coverts, and the greater wing-coverts not being edged with white.

3. *MONASA NIGRIFRONS* (Spix).

Bucco nigrifrons, Spix, Av. Bras. i. p. 53. t. 43. fig. 2.

Lypornix unicolor, Wagl. S. A. sp. 2.

Monasa nigrifrons, Gray's Gen. i. p. 74; Gray, List. of B. M. p. 49; Bp. Consp. p. 147.

M. nigro-plumbea unicolor: rostro rubro: pedibus nigris.

Long. tota 9·8; alæ 5·0; caudæ 4·7.

Hab. in vicinitate Paræ (Wallace); in sylvis fluminis Amazonum (Spix); Bolivia (?).

The *M. atra* appears to be replaced upon the Amazons by the present species, which was first discovered by Spix. It has no appearance of white upon the wings, the whole plumage being nearly uniform plumbeous black.

A skin of Mr. Eyton's is labelled '*Bolivia*,' so it possibly ranges as far as the extreme streams of those tributaries of the Amazon which flow from that country.

4. *MONASA PERSONATA*, Vieill.

Monasa personata, Vieill. Gal. des Ois. pl. 36 (1820); Enc. Méth. p. 1339.

Bucco leucops, Licht. Verz. d. Doubl. p. 8 (1823).

— *albifrons*, Spix, Av. Bras. vol. i. pl. 41 (1824).

— *albifrons* sive *leucops*, Spix, l. c. p. 53.

Lypornix leucops, Wagl. S. Av. sp. 3.

Capito leucops, Max. Beit. iv. 368.

Ann. & Mag. N. Hist. Ser. 2. Vol. xiii.

Tamatia leucops, Sw. Orn. Draw. pl. 12.

Monasa leucops, Gray's Gen. p. 74; Gray, List of B. M. p. 49; Bp. Consp. p. 147.

M. plumbescenti-nigra: facie alba: rostro rubro: pedibus nigris. Long. tota 11·2; alæ 5·2; caudæ 5·2.

Hab. in vicinitate Paræ (Wallace); in campis provinciæ Piauhy (Spix); Brasilia Mer. Orient. (Max.).

The three names for this species also were published about the same time, but I believe Vieillot has the priority. It is a very common bird in collections from the Brazils. The Prince Maximilian of Neuwied met with it frequently during his travels in South-east Brazil, and gives us the following account of it:—

“This fine *Tamatia* I did not meet with so often as the former (*Malacoptila torquata*). It does not live so near human habitations, but is found in the vast thickly-wooded districts, where we obtained many of them. In the summer they live in pairs, in the cold season singly or in flocks. At times pouring forth close to us from among the leafy branches their loud peculiar cry, they astonished the hunters not a little. They are somewhat less stupid and lonely than the former species. I have often seen them in motion, especially when several of them were uttering their loud cries in concert. In their stomachs I found remains of insects. About their nidification I can give no information.”

Genus IV. CHELIDOPTERA.

1. CHELIDOPTERA TENEBROSA (Pall.).

Cuculus tenebrosus, Pallas, Neue Nord. Beitr. iii. p. 3 (1783); Gm. S. N. i. p. 417; Lath. Ind. Orn. i. p. 221.

Monasa tenebrosa, Vieill. N. D. d'H. N. xxi. 321; Vieill. Enc. Méth. p. 1339; Steph. Zool. xiv. 156.

Bucco tenebrosus, Licht. Verz. p. 8.

Capito tenebrosus, Max. Beit. iv. 372.

Monasa tenebrio, Temm. Pl. Col. 323. fig. 1 (fig. acc.).

Brachypetes tenebrosa, Sw. Class. Birds, ii. 334.

Chelidoptera tenebrosa, Gould, Pr. Z. S. 1836, p. 81; Gray's Gen. i. p. 75; Gray, List of B. M. p. 50; Schomb. Reisen, iii. 720; Bp. Consp. p. 148.

Lypornix tenebrosa, Sw. Orn. Dr. pl. 36; Wagler, S. A. sp. 7.

White-rumped Black Cuckoo, Lath. Syn. ii. 544.

Petit Coucou noir de Cayenne, Buff. Pl. Enl. 505 (fig. pess.).

Le Barbacou à croupion blanc, Le Vail. Ois. de Par. ii. t. 46.

Ch. nigra, ventre castaneo; dorso postico et tectricibus alarum inferioribus cum crisso albis: rostro pedibusque nigris.

Long. tota 7·5; alæ 4·5; caudæ 2·5 (sp. ex Brasil).

„ 6·0 „ 4·1 „ 2·0 (sp. ex Guiana).

„ 6·0 „ 3·8 „ 2·0 (sp. ex ins. Trinit.).

Hab. in Brasilia (Max.); fl. Amazon (Wallace); Cayenne; Guiana (Schomb.); Trinitate ins.

“This bird,” says Prince Maximilian of Neuwied, “is not rare in most provinces of South Brazil, and very common in many of them. It is found in certain spots sitting still and immoveable upon the high isolated branches of the forest trees. From time to time it flies after an insect into the air, and falls back again to its place like a true *Muscicapa*. It is a stupid, still, melancholy bird, but likes to sit high and not low, and near the ground, like the other *Tamatia*. As in form and colour it rather resembles a swallow, the Brazilians call it *Andurinha do mato*—wood-swallow. The resemblance is greatest when the bird sits upon the ground, for its feet are little adapted for walking, and it consequently shuffles along like a swallow does. Its flight is light and undulating. Sitting upon a high point where it can overlook the neighbourhood, it often emits a short call-note. It is anything but timid, and very easy to shoot. It is usually found where the woods are varied with open country, on the edges of the woods, but likewise in the interior of them. The food of these birds consists of insects, of which I have found the remains in their stomachs. On the Rio Grande del Belmonte I observed how these birds nest. In the month of August I saw them enter a round hole in a perpendicular sand-bank on the river, like a kingfisher’s. After digging about two feet in a horizontal direction, we found two milk-white eggs upon a bad lining of a few feathers.”

This bird, which was first described by Pallas as long ago as 1783, was rightly separated by Mr. Gould from the rest of the family on account of its very lengthened form of wing. M. Natterer’s observations on its habits as given by Mr. Gould coincide with those of the Prince Maximilian just quoted, and I may add, that Mr. Wallace’s account of its mode of nesting is likewise the same as that previously given—not that any confirmation was necessary to the evidence of so accurate an observer.

A Trinidad skin of this bird in my own collection is much smaller than the Brazilian examples, and the colours are generally more intense. The Guiana specimens in the British Museum collected by Schomburgk are also rather smaller, and agree nearly with mine from Trinidad.

The same variation occurs in many other birds, amounting, or being considered to amount in some cases to a specific difference.

2. CHELIDOPTERA ALBIPENNIS, Bp.

Chelidoptera albipennis, Bp. Journ. f. Orn. 1853, p. 47.

Ch. præcedenti similis, sed minor et magis nigra: abdomine intense castaneo: tectricibus alarum inferioribus candidis: remigibus primariis basi, secundariis apice latissime albis.
(Bp. *l. c.*)

Hab. in Venezuela; Cumana.

I have seen the single specimen in the Museum of the Jardin des Plantes at Paris, upon which the Prince Charles Bonaparte established this new species. I must confess I should like to see more examples of it; as it appears to me to be very possibly nothing more than the small variety of the preceding type-species with an accidental white bar on the wing. But I did not make a very accurate examination of it, and the Prince Charles Bonaparte has had a much better opportunity of deciding whether it is a good species than I have. To his authority I defer.

XLVI.—*On the Anatomy of the Giraffe* (*Camelopardalis giraffa*, Linn.). By T. SPENCER COBBOLD, M.D., Conservator of the Anatomical Museum, University of Edinburgh*.

I HAVE already communicated to the Physiological Society of this city a few of the results obtained by a careful dissection and evisceration of the carcase of a Giraffe. Subsequent examination of the parts then removed has furnished me with additional details, to which, in connection with the above, I now beg to direct your attention.

The animal recently formed an attractive feature in the collection well known as Wombwell's Travelling Menagerie. From one of the keepers I ascertained that it had been in this country only seven months; in height it was about 14 feet, and was believed to be rather more than two years old. Until a very short while before death no symptoms of disease had been detected, and the creature was regarded as an exceedingly healthy specimen. I understood that no fewer than six individuals of this interesting genus (which comprises but this one species) had been purchased at different times for the collection, but each of them, as in the present instance, expired before it had been eight months in Wombwell's possession. This cannot surprise us, as we well know that in spite of all the painstaking and expense incurred in endeavouring to keep them alive, no such effort can prove successful, unless a roomy apartment and numerous other desiderata be supplied, such as are so advantageously afforded in the case of those kept in the London Zoological Society's Gardens, Regent's Park.

In the Giraffe under consideration, the first unfavourable indications appeared in the fore-limbs; these symptoms were attributed to the severity of the cold which prevailed here in the winter season. The usual remedies were applied, but the extremities gradually gave way until complete paralysis supervened, and the animal sank about eight days after the first traces of internal disturbance.

* Read to the Royal Physical Society of Edinburgh, April 5th, 1854.